PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

CLAUS SCHIERZ ET AL-1 (PCT)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

BOX PCT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants are enclosing Form PTO-1449 disclosing the references cited in the International Search Report, copy enclosed. German No. DE-U 93 11 571 is discussed in the specification on page 2, line 1. As it is believed that copies of the references cited in the Search Report were forwarded by the International Office, we are not enclosing copies of these references. It is respectfully requested that the foregoing Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) be incorporated into the official file of the present patent application. Because this IDS is being filed before a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that no fee is required. However, if a fee should be required for this IDS, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized to charge any required fee, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-

2468.

Respectfully submitted. AUS SCHIERZ ET

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Enclosures:

Form PTO-1449, copy of the International Search Report

EXPRESS MAIL NO. **EL 621 966 815 US**

Date of Deposit: July 24, 2000

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the Assistant

Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Ingrid Mittendorf